GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4260
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2008
MANUFACTURING AND MARKETING OF ANTI-SMOKING DRUG BY PFIZER INC
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given permission to Pfizer Inc. for manufacturing and marketing of anti-smoking drug in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban the manufacturing and marketing of the said drug; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)&(b): No, Sir.Government has not granted permission to M/s. Pfizer Inc. to manufacture anti-smoking drug.However,permission has been granted to M/s Pfizer Ltd. for import and marketing of finished formulation of Varenicline tablet 0.5mg/I mg in May, 2007.

(c)&(d): No, Sir. The drug is currently being marketed in many countries including India, UK, USA, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia etc.The drug has neither been withdrawn nor banned in any country.